

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

76-2671/A

OLC: 76-1845/a

13 JUL 1976

Honorable Bella S. Abzug, Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Government Information and
Individual Rights
Committee on Government Operations
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

This is in response to your letter dated 25 June 1976 requesting
information concerning the relationships of the Central Intelligence Agency
to Information Digest.

The CIA does not subscribe to Information Digest now, nor has it
subscribed to it in the past. We have responded to your request on a
question by question basis and trust that this response satisfies your inquiry.

Sincerely,

/s/ George Bush

George Bush
Director

Enclosure

Distribution:

Original - Addressee

1 - DCI

1 - DDCI

1 - ER

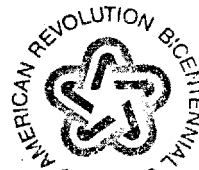
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Approved For Release 2004/10/07 : CIA-RDP78M02660R000200070031-6

ENCLOSURE

Approved For Release 2004/10/07 : CIA-RDP78M02660R000200070031-6

What CIA entities subscribed to Information Digest (also periodically called Intelligence Report), and during what periods?

Answer:

No CIA entities presently subscribe or have in the past subscribed to Information Digest.

Question 2:

From what sources other than the publisher did any CIA entity receive, on a regular or irregular basis, Information Digest (or any surrogate), and during what periods?

Answer:

During the period from September 1972 until April 1973, the Office of Security was given copies of Information Digest by a staff member of a congressional committee.

Question 3:

What monies were paid by CIA entities, and to which addresses, for subscriptions or contributions to Information Digest (or any surrogate or agent thereof)?

Other than the subscription price, is CIA aware of any other Government funds or monies which were used in any way to support the activities of Information Digest? If so, please provide a detailed description of such payments.

Answer:

No Agency monies were paid by CIA entities for subscriptions or contributions to Information Digest, nor are we aware of any Government funds used to support the activities of Information Digest.

Question 4:

To what divisions within the CIA, and to what regional offices, was the Information Digest (or any surrogate) distributed on either a formal or informal basis?

Answer:

The Information Digest issues were maintained within the Office of Security and were not distributed to any other components. Certain information from one issue was given to the Counterintelligence Staff in 1970.

Question 5:

How was information supplied to CIA entities by the Information Digest (or any surrogate), or information derived from Information Digest, utilized? To what entities, both internal and external to the CIA, was this information disseminated by CIA?

Answer:

Material from Information Digest was used as part of the data base which was accumulated to assess the threat posed to Agency personnel and facilities by dissidents. The only known dissemination of any items from Information Digest was through their inclusion in the Situation Information Reports (SIR's) which were prepared by the Office of Security for internal use. However, a portion of the SIR's was a calendar of forthcoming events, and this portion was regularly given to the Secret Service.

Question 6:

What is the legal authority, if any, upon which CIA relied to pay monies to Information Digest? to utilize its data? to disseminate to other agencies this material?

Answer:

CIA has paid no monies for Information Digest. The data contained therein was used for reference purposes and was not of itself the basis for any action. Regular dissemination outside the Agency was to the Secret Service. The only information they received was that which concerned planned dissident activities. This information was used to help protect the President of the United States.

Question 7:

How is information received from Information Digest currently stored? Has the data been integrated into active or inactive files maintained by CIA on particular individuals or groups? In what manner or form may the information derived from Information Digest be retrieved?

Answer:

The Office of Security has an inactive one volume file labeled "Information Digest" which contains all copies of the Information Digests which have been received. These issues are dated from 8 September 1972 until 27 April 1973. Names of individuals and groups mentioned in the newsletter were indexed and may be retrieved by a check of the indices; however, none of the information was integrated into any of the active or inactive files. In addition, information from one issue was found in an inactive counterintelligence file.

What information, if any, did CIA, its entities, or agents, supply to Information Digest (or any surrogate), or its agents? Please describe in detail the nature of any such information given or shared; the legal basis for such exchange; and the identity of CIA entities which supplied such information.

Answer:

The CIA has supplied no information to Information Digest or its agents.

Question 9:

If a formal or informal relationship existed between CIA, its components or agents to supply information to Information Digest or its agents, by whose authority within the CIA was such relationship initiated and approved?

Answer:

No such relationship existed whereby we would supply information to Information Digest (or its agents).

Question 10:

Is the CIA aware of any instance in which a Governmental entity supplied information on individuals or organizations to Information Digest or its agents? Please provide details of any such arrangements.

Answer:

The Agency is not aware of any such arrangements.

Question 11:

Does CIA currently subscribe to or receive publications similar to Information Digest; and if so, for what purposes?

Answer:

If "similar publications" is defined to be domestically published newsletters which collectively represent the broad range of political thought, the Agency receives several "similar publications". These are Intelligence Report, published by the Center for National Security Studies; Evans-Novak Political report, published by Evans-Novak Political Report Company; and Washington Report, published by the American Security Council. These publications are subscribed to for library information and reference purposes.

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Approved For Release 2004/10/07 : CIA-RDP78M02000R000200070031-6

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

Subject

STAT

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

[Redacted]

Acting Legislative Counsel

EXTENSION

NO.

OLC: 76-1845/a

DATE

12 JUL 1976

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

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DDCI
Director

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LM

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Director

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The following response to Chairwoman Abzug is attached for your signature. This request came in from her as a result of a 27 June 1976 Washington Post article on John Rees, publisher of Information Digest, a newsletter which supplied data on anti-war activities. CIA has had no input to Information Digest, but did receive some issues of the newsletter. Our final response has been coordinated with the Office of Security, International Terrorist Group (DDO), and Central Reference Service.

Acting Legislative Counsel

STAT

BELLA S. ABZUS, N.Y., CHAIRWOMAN
LEO J. RYAN, CALIF.
JOHN CONYERS, JR., MICH.
TORBERT H. MACDONALD, MASS.
JOHN E. MOSS, CALIF.
MICHAEL HARRINGTON, MASS.
ANDREW MAGUIRE, N.J.
ANTHONY MOFFETT, CONN.

SEN. STEIGER, ARIZ.
CLARENCE J. BROWN, OHIO
PAUL N. McCLOSKEY, JR., CALIF.
225-3741

NINETY-FOURTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS
SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM B-349-B-C

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

June 25, 1976

Executive Registry
76-2671

OLC 76 1845

Honorable George Bush
Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Mr. Bush:

The Subcommittee has documentary evidence that the Central Intelligence Agency has utilized Information Digest, a secret and confidential mimeographed newsletter ostensibly published privately and sent to some 40 law-enforcement and intelligence agency subscribers. A recent New York State investigation described this publication as "a sophisticated, right wing intelligence newsletter which for the last seven years has supplied police departments throughout the United States with derogatory information on liberals and the left." My own inspection of several copies of this publication strongly suggests its contents are based upon a nationwide network of hidden informants, often law-enforcement connected, that have infiltrated a wide spectrum of non-violent groups exercising their Constitutional rights.

I wish to know:

- (1) What CIA entities subscribed to Information Digest (also periodically called Intelligence Report), and during what periods?
- (2) From what sources other than the publisher did any CIA entity receive, on a regular or irregular basis, Information Digest (or any surrogate), and during what periods?

In other words, what private and/or governmental sources also supplied or exchanged with CIA copies of, or data derived from Information Digest?

- (3) What monies were paid by CIA entities, and to which addresses, for subscriptions or contributions to Information Digest (or any surrogate or agent thereof)?

Honorable George Bush
June 25, 1976

Page 2

Other than the subscription price, is CIA aware of any other government funds or monies which were used in any way to support the activities of Information Digest? If so, please provide a detailed description of such payments.

- (4) To what divisions within the CIA, and to what regional offices, was the Information Digest (or any surrogate) distributed on either a formal or informal basis?
- (5) How was information supplied to CIA entities by the Information Digest (or any surrogate), or information derived from Information Digest, utilized? To what entities, both internal and external to the CIA, was this information disseminated by CIA?
- (6) What is the legal authority, if any, upon which CIA relied to pay monies to Information Digest to utilize its data? to disseminate to other agencies this material?
- (7) How is information received from Information Digest currently stored? Has the data been integrated into active or inactive files maintained by CIA on particular individuals or groups? In what manner or form may the information derived from Information Digest be retrieved?
- (8) What information, if any, did CIA, its entities, or agents, supply to Information Digest (or any surrogate), or its agents? Please describe in detail the nature of any such information given or shared; the legal basis for such exchange; and the identity of CIA entities which supplied such information.
- (9) If a formal or informal relationship existed between CIA, its components, or agents to supply information to Information Digest or its agents, by whose authority within the CIA was such relationship initiated and approved?
- (10) Is the CIA aware of any instance in which a governmental entity supplied information on individuals or organizations to Information Digest or its agents? Please provide details of any such arrangements.
- (11) Does CIA currently subscribe to or receive publications similar to Information Digest; and if so, for what purposes?

BEILA S. ABZUS, N.Y., CHAIRMAN
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CLARENCE J. BROWN, OHIO
PAUL N. McCLOSKEY, JR., CALIF.
225-3741

NINETY-FOURTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

GOVERNMENT INFORMATION AND INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS
SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM B-349-B-C
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

June 25, 1976

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Honorable George Bush
June 25, 1976

Page 3

If you or your staff have any questions concerning this request, please contact Subcommittee Professional Staff Member Robert Fink at 225-3741.

I look forward to receiving your detailed response, on or before July 8, 1976.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Bella S. Abzug". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

BELLA S. ABZUG
Chairwoman

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CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	D/DCI/IC				
4	S/MC				
5	DDS&T				
6	DDI		X		
7	DDA		X		
8	DDO		X		
9	D/DCI/NIO				
10	GC		X		
11	LC	X			
12	IG				
13	Compt				
14	D/Pers				
15	D/S				
16	DTR				
17	Asst/DCI				
18	AO/DCI				
19	C/IPS				
20	H. Knoche		X		
21	C/Review Staff		X		
22					

SUSPENSE 2 July 1976
Date

Remarks:

Please develop DCI response.

28 June 1976

Date

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STAT

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM: Office of Legislative Counsel
6C19 Hq.
BX 3 Green

EXTENSION

NO. OLC 76-1845

DATE 29 June 1976

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

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The DDO got a copy for info, but could you please check as to whether ITG may have subscribed to this publication. (Security did.) If so, could someone prepare answers to the questions and send to me.

Assistant Legislative Counsel

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